

THE STORY OF HAWAII.

John L. Stevens Speaks on Annexation.

Ex-Minister to the Hawaiian Islands John L. Stevens addressed the Chamber of Commerce yesterday with regard to the Annexation question. There was a very full attendance of the members and the speech was listened to with the closest attention. Frequently it was interrupted by applause.

President Cleveland introduced Mr. Stevens, who began by saying that he appeared as an American, and that he believed he was speaking to Americans. His address in the main was as follows:

"Circumstances render it necessary for me to say a few words relative to what has recently transpired in Hawaiian affairs and in respect to the interests which the United States has in the Hawaiian problem. In September, 1889, I first saw the Hawaiian Islands—those beautiful emeralds in the North Pacific sea. I had not been long in Honolulu when I perceived how thoroughly an American city it is, how strong is American sympathy and how predominant are American interests in all the islands of the Hawaiian group. More than one year of careful study of the existing complex facts I found necessary to a correct understanding of the moral, commercial and political state of the islands. Though I had much previous experience and observation among the nations of three continents, I found a condition of things in Honolulu unlike that I had ever known at any other national capital. I found an intelligent body of citizens, of European and American origin, sharing the good will of many native Hawaiians, supporting a semi-barbaric monarchy resting on no solid or normal foundation, dead in everything but its vices, coarsely luxurious in its tastes and wishes, constantly sending out impure exhalations, and spreading social and political demoralization throughout the islands. This semi-barbaric and grossly spurious government mechanism, called the Hawaiian monarchy, was being chiefly supported by the taxes and toleration of those who could have no sincere loyalty to it, and who knew that it returned to the islands nothing for the money it annually squandered on worse than useless expenditures. That such a barbaric and absurd counterfeit in the name of government and law was so long endured is a striking proof of the self-control and forbearance of the responsible citizens of Hawaii. Suffice it to say that such an abomination in the name of government, or for any other pretense or purpose, would not be allowed to exist sixty days in any of our American cities. Only very exceptional circumstances caused the responsible citizens and principal taxpayers of the islands so long to maintain this dead and worse than useless monarchy.

"The biennial Legislature assembled in May, 1892. That body very soon asserted its constitutional prerogative in voting out a Ministry that had consented to the maladministration of the Queen and her immoral favorite at the palace, who exercised dictatorial powers and rioted in official police corruption. Instead of appointing officers possessing the confidence of the legislative majority and of the business men of the Islands, she continued to select those of her own type of character, those whom she knew would retain her illicit palace favorite in power. Three successive Ministers (this description were voted out by the Legislature, with the warm approval of all of the best men of the Islands. At last the Queen appeared to yield to the pressure of public opinion and consented to the appointment of four responsible men—three of them persons of wealth, and all men of good financial standing, who took the official places with reluctance, all four of them sharing the public confidence. Known as the Wilcox-Jones Ministry, it was believed that they would safely carry the country through the following eighteen months, to the election and assemblage of the next Legislature. Fully sharing this belief, the United States Minister and naval commander left Honolulu January 4th in the United States cruiser Boston for Hilo and the volcano, the distance of nearly 300 miles. It was the first time for many months I had felt it safe for the United States Minister and naval commander to be away from the Hawaiian capital. We were absent ten days.

"When we arrived in the harbor of Honolulu on our return from Hilo in the forenoon of January 14th, there came to us the startling news that the Queen and the ring of white adventurers who surrounded her had by intrigue and bribery carried the lottery and opium bills through the Legislature, had freed out the Wilcox and Jones Ministry and appointed in their places four of her palace retainers, two of whom the Legislature and the responsible public had recently and repeatedly rejected, headed by the man who had carried the lottery and opium bills through the Legislature.

"While the Boston was coming into the harbor of Honolulu, on the forenoon of January 14th, the mob of hoodlums, at the call of the Queen and her retainers, were gathered in the palace grounds. The Legislature was prorogued at 12 A. M. The revolutionary edict of Hawaii's misguided sovereign was ready to be proclaimed, rumors of which were already in the public ear. The storm of public indignation began to gather. A few minutes before the appointed hour for the *coup d'état*, immediately after my reaching the Legation from the Boston, I was urged to go at once to the English Minister to ask him to accompany me to the Queen to try and dissuade her from her revolutionary design. I promptly sought to comply with this request and went immediately to the English Minister, who was ready to co-operate with me if there were any possibility of doing any good. We went

General Advertisements.

M. McINERNY.

Are we to be, or not to be, a part of the Great Republic, seems to be the burning question of the day, and one we had rather leave to wiser heads than ours to solve; and while great statesmen are wrestling with this momentous question, we want to have a little "pow-wow" with you on some other subjects, that concern you as well as ourselves.

Has it not occurred to you that you've been wearing that old hat long enough! In these progressive times if you intend to be "in it," you've got to keep pace with fashion. No matter how otherwise well dressed you may be, unless your hat is the correct thing you bear a shabby appearance.

We have already laid in a stock of the Latest Hats of the coming Spring and Summer styles, in hard felts, soft felts and straws, and including a line of the celebrated "Fedora" Hats, at present all the rage in the United States. There is therefore, no necessity for you to hang on any longer to that old Tile that bears such a strong resemblance to the hat "your father wore."

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Neckwear in profusion, scarfs, windsors, 4-in-hands, and a special lot of "Boys' Bows;" suspenders in great variety, leather and woven ends, good strong, serviceable goods.

We might go on indefinitely, but space is valuable, and to enumerate everything we carry would fill a pretty fair sized book. If there is anything you want in the men's line, just drop in and see us, and if we can't suit you, we don't believe any one can.

If you should want a pair of nice shoes, let us try a hand at fitting you. Did it ever occur to you

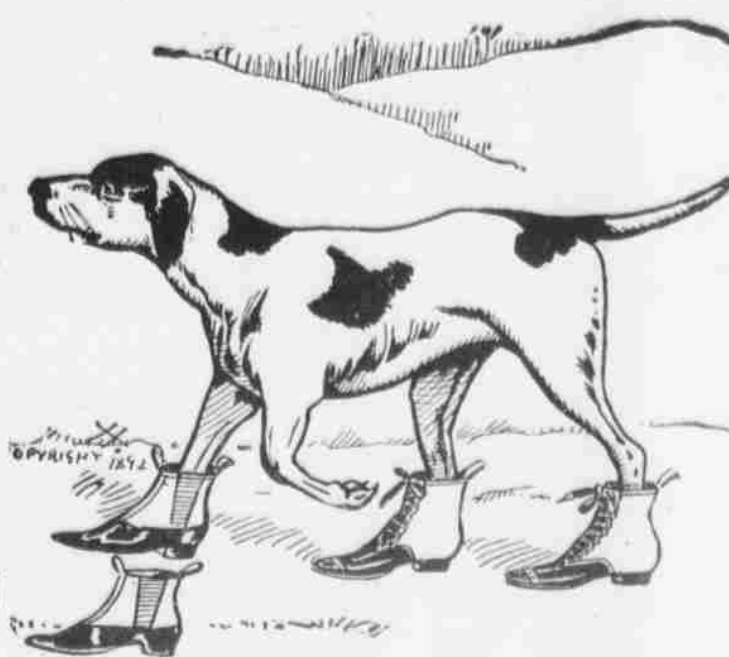
How much a man is like his shoes; For instance, both a soul may lose. Both have been tanned; Both are made tight by Cobblers; Both get left and right; Both need a mate to be complete; And both are made to go on feet.

They both need healing; oft are sold, And both in time will turn to mould. With shoes the last is first; with men The first shall be the last; and when The shoes wear out, they're mended new; When men wear out, they're men dead too.

They both are trod upon, and both Will tread on others nothing loth. Both have their ties, and both incline When polished, in the world to shine; And both peg out. Now would you choose To be a man, or be his shoes.

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(Continued on Fourth Page.)